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Ambassador Report Template

This template is provided for Ambassadors to report back to the CIOB on any activities undertaken in an Ambassadorial role. It can also be used by Ambassadors to identify any information or support required from CIOB staff.¹

Please send Ambassador Reports to:

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AMBASSADOR ACTIVITY:
Ambassador activity Attended Break Fast meeting arranged by The Barbados Chamber of Commerce and Industry BUILDING STANDARDS ;A BETTER FUTURE FOR BARBADOS
Date 26th September 2007 Venue Barbados Hilton

REPORT:
Please bullet point any issues that you feel are relevant to the CIOB and your stated position.
The BCCI invited a panel comprising representatives from the Ministry Of Public Works and Transport, The Barbados Institute of Architects, The Barbados Association of Professional Engineers to discuss the provisions of the draft bill and to provide a better understanding of what is /what should be embodied within a national building code.
The BAPE consider it will lead to increase in the construction cost that Building Standards Authority will be understaffed and will not attract the best staff. This will lead to delays. They favour a Private Sector Certification and a phased approach of

¹ NB: This form is not compulsory but it has been designed to make reporting as easy as possible. You may prefer to email the CIOB directly or use your own reporting template. The CIOB wants to be as flexible as possible in this regard, but does request written reports to ensure information can be filed and used in the development of CIOB policy.



the introduction of the Code. They favour a performance related building code like Australia. They favour an Act like Singapore but strongly reject wholesale implementation of any one system.

Tony Selby BIA made the point that the Act needs to have teeth to restrict the developer/owner interfering in the building process.

Favours a sharing of information especially in relation to site conditions. Phased implementation.

Stephen Every of Rotherley Construction Inc. Developers have a choice and anything that delays the process will put developers off. investing in the island

Ralph 'Bizzy' Williams stated that the Town and Country Planning Office overstretched and it took a long time to obtain approvals. He favours an independent checker licensed to check work and if he does not do the job effectively the inspector gets struck off.

David Joey Harper Child Care Board requested that design for children design for disabled.

Daycare centre; better access for disabled facilities

The new code and act has been drawn up by George Mathews FRICS a Building Surveyor and is formatted on the Scottish System. 17 Sections

We have had Codes from 1970 but these have never been made Statutory Regulations and are considered good practice.

I believe that this is where CIOB can make a valuable contribution to the development of Barbados.

^R
ALL AGREED THAT BARBADOS NEEDS A CODE
LOT OF WORK IS UNREGULATED HOUSEBUILDING
NOT ENOUGH OPEN DIALOGUE WITH STAKEHOLDERS

sel

2 • Saturday September 29, 2007

The Barbados Advocate

Regulation needed

Call for plumbers to be licenced to decrease interior work on low and middle-income homeowners

JUST as electricians have to be licensed in Barbados, there is a call for plumbers to be regulated in the same way.

This was the suggestion from architect, Michael Lashley, as he contended that it would certainly go a long way in helping the low and middle-income homeowners get a better deal when building their homes.

He was speaking during the breakfast seminar of the Barbados Chamber of Commerce and Industry under the theme 'Building Standards: A Better Future for Barbados' at the Hilton Hotel recently.

He said that often those two income brackets do not get quality finished products and he added that he strongly believes that regulating such persons as plumbers and other artisans would go a long way, as will the implementation of the National Building Code and the Building Authority.

"Generally I would like to see the artisans who service the smaller man raise their level of performance and therefore give that person a better

quality product and reduce the bad experiences of some homeowners," Lashley stated.

"...As architects our work in terms of electrical... basically says a light goes there and a plug goes there. We do not design circuitry; we rely on the electrician to do that and the electrical inspector to check it. That department has really made a great contribution as a start to what can be a well managed building code and I would like to see that extended to the licensing of plumbers who would be involved in design of the placing and sizing of pipes," he said.

Lashley explained that when some of the projects encounter problems with the plumbing, contractors are forced to make excuses to their clients because there were no checks and balances for that aspect of the project.

He said that some system also had to be put in place to regulate the water tanks that new houses and buildings over a certain square footage are now required to install. He lamented that since that regulation was put in place, there

has been little direction given to the plumbers as to how to manage that water. He said that these tanks could serve as breeding grounds for mosquitoes, which can find their way into the tank through the pipe that leads the water in.

Meanwhile, Senator Tyrone Barker, acting Minister of Public Works and Transport said that the Building Standards Authority will seek to ensure that the consumer ultimately gets the best deal.

"We have heard many horror stories in the past about building where the homeowner believes that there is steel in the building, but there is no steel... so do not let us feel that all is well and perfect within the construction industry because it isn't," he pointed out.

He said that Government is seeking to put in place a mechanism to prevent any such catastrophe. Government's role, he said is to regulate and to ensure that things are done right, and as such, he noted that they must set certain safeguards and stipulations as well as put mechanism in place to enforce them.

